

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action identified above, the Examiner rejected claims 5-7 and 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Moon et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,629,000); rejected claims 1-4, 17-20, and 33 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galensky (U.S. Patent No. 6,845,398) in view of Murray (U.S. Patent No. 5,699,089); rejected claims 9-13, 16, 25-29, and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Burrows (U.S. Patent No. 6,377,530) in view of Maehashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,587,641); and objected to claims 14, 15, 30, and 31 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 14, 15, 30, and 31. Applicants believe claims 1-7, 9-13, 16-23, 25-29, and 32-34 also include allowable subject matter. However, to expedite prosecution, Applicants propose amending claims 14, 30, and 31 to place them in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims and canceling claims 1-7, 9-13, 16-23, 25-29, and 32-34 without prejudice or disclaimer. As such, Applicants submit that claims 14, 15, 30, and 31 are allowable and request the Examiner to allow these claims.

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 14, 15, 30, and 31 in condition for allowance. Applicants submit that the proposed amendments of claims 14, 30, and 31 do not raise

new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner, since all of the elements and their relationships claimed were either earlier claimed or inherent in the claims as examined. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

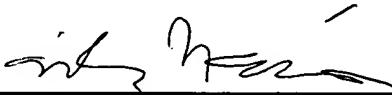
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: May 10, 2006

By: 
Milan S. Kapadia
Reg. No. 55,982